

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Official Product
DATE: June 04, 2003***

TROPICAL CYCLONE PUBLIC ADVISORY

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The Tropical Cyclone Public Advisory (TCP) is a text product prepared by the National Weather Services (NWS) National Hurricane Center (NHC), Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC), and Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Guam, for tropical cyclones in their respective basin of responsibility. In the Atlantic and central Pacific TCPs are issued for all tropical cyclones by NHC and CPHC, respectively. In the eastern Pacific, NHC issues TCPs when watches or warnings are required, or if the tropical cyclone is expected to impact nearby land areas. In the western Pacific WFO Guam issues TCPs for all tropical cyclones expected to affect land within 48 hours. The product title depends on the intensity of the tropical cyclone, to include: Tropical Depression Advisory, Tropical Storm Advisory, Hurricane/Typhoon Advisory. This product is also issued for subtropical storms.

Additionally, once NHC discontinues issuing forecasts/advisories and if the storm remains a threat to inland areas of the continental United States (US), the NWSs Hydrometeorological Prediction Center (HPC) assumes responsibility for issuing the TCP.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

The TCP is the primary tropical cyclone product issued to the public. The TCP provides critical tropical cyclone watch, warning, and forecast information. Issuance criteria for the TCP is provided in NWSI 10-601.

3. Audience:

The general public is the primary target audience for the product. However, this product is widely used by other NWS National Centers and WFOs; federal, state, and local government agencies; state and local emergency managers; Nations in the Caribbean, Central America and West Pacific, media and maritime interests.

4. Presentation Format:

This is a text product. Advisories usually begin with a lead statement or headline to emphasize significant aspects of the tropical cyclone. Advisories list watches for hurricane/typhoon and tropical storm conditions if these conditions are possible over land areas within 36 hours, except 48 hours in the western north Pacific. Advisories issue warnings if tropical cyclone conditions are expected along the coast within 24 hours. Advisories include the following elements: current storm location by latitude and longitude, expected storm movement for the next 24 hours, maximum observed 1-minute sustained surface wind speed, areal extent of hurricane and tropical storm force winds, central pressure, precipitation trends, storm surge forecasts, and inland impacts. .

TCPs for active tropical cyclones in the Atlantic and East Pacific basins are provided at:
<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>.

TCPs for tropical cyclones affecting inland areas of the continental US are provided at:
<http://www.hpc.noaa.gov/>.

TCPs for tropical cyclones affecting the Central Pacific basin are provided at:
<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/pr/hnl/cphc/pages/cphc.shtml>.

TCPs for tropical cyclones affecting WFO Guam are provided at:
<http://tgs55.nws.noaa.gov/pr/guam/>.

5. **Feedback Method:**

Continuous feedback is available via an Internet page e-mail link to the program managers in the Marine and Coastal Weather Services Branch.

Technical and policy questions, and comments for the TCP may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Scott Kiser, W/OS21
Tropical Cyclone Program Manager
1325 East-West Highway, Room 13126
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

or e-mail questions and comments to: Scott.Kiser@noaa.gov

Part 2 - Technical

1. **Format and Science Basis:**

The TCP product is a text product produced by hurricane forecasters providing a detailed current assessment and forecast for each tropical and subtropical system. The product is generally disseminated after coordination telephone calls have been made with affected WFOs, National Centers, such as the Storm Prediction Center and HPC and Department of Defense.

2. **Availability:**

The product is disseminated by TPC and CPHC at 0300, 0900, 1500, and 2100 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). If watches and warnings are in effect, an intermediate TCP is issued at 0600, 1200, 1800, and 0000 UTC. WFO Guam issues the TCP at 0400, 1000, 1600, and 2200 UTC. The product is made available via various means of dissemination such as: the Internet, U.S. Coast Guard Radio Broadcasts, the NOAA Weather Radio, NOAAPort and the NOAA Weather Wire.

3. **Additional Information:**

A full description of this and other NWS Tropical Cyclone Weather Services Program Products is provided in NWSI 10-601, which is available on the Internet at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/operation_services.htm.